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**BOX AF**

Serial No.: 09/814,066

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**  
**---EXPEDITE PROCEDURE---**  
**GROUP ART UNIT 3673**

AF/3673

#11  
Amended  
(NE)  
2/21/02

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of

Docket No. 20551/I/JR (704001AA)

F. Knauseder

Serial No.: 09/814,066

Group Art Unit: No. 3673

Filed: June 21, 2001

Examiner: Michael Safavi

For: **FLOORING PANELS**

Box: AF

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RECEIVED**

DEC 19 2002

**GROUP 3600**

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 17, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 2 as follows. A clean copy of amended claim 2 is provided below. A marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached hereto in the attached separate sheet, entitled "Marked-Up Copy of Claims."

2. (Thrice Amended) A configuration according to claim 1, wherein:

locking elements are on at least one side of the groove and at least one side of the tongue, the locking elements conform to each other and extend over the entire length of the groove and the tongue are provided in the form of an indentation or recess and a projection, in order to hold connected components in a joined position;

the groove is formed directly in the component or is worked out of the same in order to provide for a connection of the components;

the tongue forms a single piece with the component or is worked out of the same;

O.K. to Enter